

From: Mike Rerick
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft settlement

I have been in the software business for twenty years. In that time, I have seen Microsoft grow from a very small company to today's megalithic company. In that time, their business practices have been suspect on more than one occasion. DR-DOS, Lotus 123 running on DOS, the attempted squashing of Netscape, ignoring the earlier consent decree, licensing terms, unfair ability of products to have insider knowledge of the operating system (and get features added that only Microsoft's developers know about). The company behavior that brought the anti-trust suit hasn't changed any. Ever since the threat of breakup has passed, I noticed that their behavior has reverted back to the the pre-suit days.

I would like to see very positive action taken to assure that their monopoly is brought under control. A very large fine (several billion would be a good starting point), the removal of all the top company officers/managers, publishing the full API for both operating system and products so everyone can use all added features in them and immediate publishing as new features are added, restrictions on what they are allowed to add to the operating system as bundled software, set the same pricing for all computer vendors for the operating system, allow vendors to change the desktop any way they want with no retribution from Microsoft and very close scrutiny of any companies that Microsoft wants to purchase - if the purchase would seriously impact competition, then it shouldn't be allowed.

Thank you for your time.

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